

BULLETIN

of the
**MAHONING COUNTY
MEDICAL SOCIETY**

Volume L

MARCH, 1980

Number 3





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1980 - MAHONING COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY MEETINGS - 1980

Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday	Tuesday
Jan. 15	Mar. 18	May 20	Sept. 16	Nov. 18	Dec. 16

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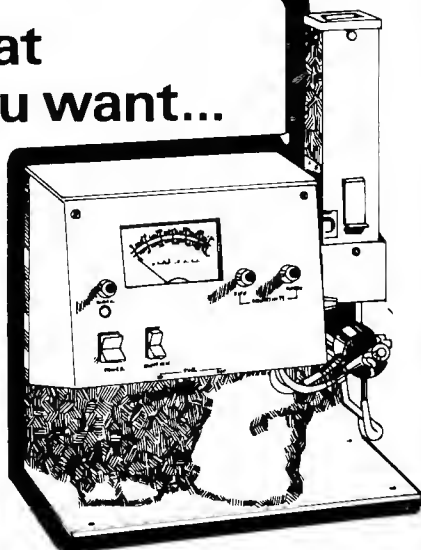
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BULLETIN

of the Mahoning County Medical Society

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Volume L

MARCH, 1980



Number 3

The opinions and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial staff nor the official views of the Mahoning County Medical Society.

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Jack Schreiber, M.D.

Editorial

J. C. A. H.

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals has become one of the bureaucratic boondoggles which is driving the cost of medical care higher and higher. When it was originally established as an arm of the American College of Surgeons this was not its effect, but that effect has changed over the years. It all began as an organization of volunteer doctors from the College of Surgeons to establish minimum standards for hospitals. For over 30 years this accreditation was founded upon a set of definite understandable standards which were only about a page in length.

In 1951 things began to change as the College of Surgeons turned this accreditation process over to a joint commission comprising the American Medical Association, the American Hospital Association, the American College of Surgeons, and the American College of Physicians. As a result today's hospitals are confronted with a bureaucracy hiding behind a guidebook of standards 225 pages in length in addition to a 70 page book of "Guidelines" for the By-laws of medical staffs. Beginning in 1976 revisions of these guidelines began to pour forth, so that we now have a new edition each and every year of what is expected for approval of the individual hospital. What began as one reviewer for which no fee was charged has blossomed into a bureaucracy producing a team of doctor, administrator, nurse, and technician examiners charging fees into the thousands. Indirectly, what is demanded for approval, often unnecessarily, involves the expenditure of untold thousands. This money, of course, must be extracted from patients by fees for services. The road to hell is paved with good intentions and all tyranny, and thus all evil, proceeds from the desire for a temporal good. Usually that temporal good is something for the good of the examiners. As a result hospital costs have been substantially raised again and again to satisfy the demand of the examiners for often unjustifiable additions to physical plant and personnel. Much of this is totally unnecessary and unwarranted.

The arrival of the JCAH examiners seems to produce a milieu of terror and fear to which hospital administrators respond with anxiety. In turn hospitals hold the JCAH demands over the heads of their medical staffs forcing changes and alterations in the Staff By-laws. Recommendations

are presented to the staff physicians as demands instead of items to be considered. The whole idea is to keep the staff in line and not to allow any individuality of expression to emerge. Nobody must be allowed to shake the boat. Often the new By-laws become malpractice traps. Quantitative audits are introduced and minute delincation of privileges. All too often medical staffs accept these PSRO requirements like docile sheep waiting to be sheared of their wool. The JCAH has adopted the government's PSRO type of review and so physicians are being forced to submit, so that the hospital can maintain its accreditation. It has become just another way to force government regulations down our throats. The time has come for us to resist some of this nonsense and to determine for ourselves what is medically necessary and what is not medically necessary. There is too much repetition, too many meetings mandated, and too much chart work that is not necessary. We have got to overthrow these bureaucrats and throw off the slave's collar if we are to survive as individuals with individual personalities.

Much of what is being done is intended to disrupt the natural forces of the marketplace in the field of medicine. In Hawaii the bureaucrats tried unsuccessfully to force the physicians to provide certificates of need for their services. In Rhode Island at the present time an 800 page report has been drafted by Governor Garrahay in an effort to put a ceiling on the number of doctors practicing in each speciality in that state. We don't seem to realize that the bureaucrats want to take our freedom of choice away from us. To accomplish their aims they are willing to turn logic on its ear and to tell all sorts of downright untruths and half truths. For instance these bureaucratic health experts have been claiming that an excess of doctors increases the costs of medical services instead of the other way around. It is scarcity of service that raises prices and not plentiful availability. Only government seems to be able to reverse the supply and demand ethic.

In Rhode Island the governor's draft also seeks to eliminate one of every four hospital beds in the state, despite an 82% occupancy rate in their hospitals. In California the bueraucrats are trying to force more physicians into what they call "unserved" areas which are rural or ghetto in nature. They want to do this by controlling residency options and offering out of state training to young doctors who will agree to these provisions. In the meantime the costs go up and up, higher and higher to satisfy the demands of bureaucrats, not of patients. Senator Kennedy and President Carter want to load more regulations and restrictions on our shoulders, and of course, more costs to be paid either by taxation or by patients or both. Fortunately it doesn't have too much longer to go before the whole thing is to come apart. We must not mourn this evcnt when it comes, because it is to lead to a new era of freedom from restriction, from tyranny and oppression.

—Richard D. Murray, M.D., M. Sc. (med.)
Editor

MINUTES ARE SAFEGUARDED

After 107 years of being stacked on a shelf, the original 1872 minutes of the Mahoning County Medical Society, along with numerous books of subsequent minutes, have found a safe resting place.

Thanks to the diligent efforts of our historian, Dr. John Melnick, and through the courtesy of the Mahoning National Bank, all but the current minute books have been secured in a fire-proof vault at the bank. The transfer from the Medical Society office was made on Thursday, Feb. 7.



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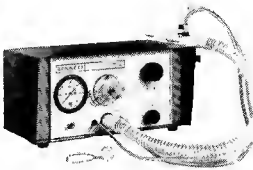
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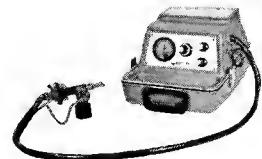


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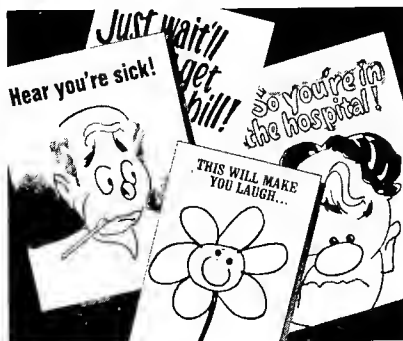


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From the Bulletin

FORTY YEARS AGO — MARCH 1940

Doctors treating pneumonia those days usually ordered the sputum typed routinely, but the new sulapyridine interfered with typing because it killed off the pneumococci so rapidly. Some were about to give up typing but authorities recommended that it should be done before sulfapyridine was started so that in case of toxic reaction to the drug, the proper serum could be given.

J. B. Kupec was in St. Elizabeth's Hospital with pneumonia. The *Bulletin* does not say how he was treated, but he made a nice recovery. B. J. Dreiling, C. S. Lowendorf, R. B. Poling, J. M. Ranz, S. J. Tamarkin, and E. H. Young were victims of the "flu". R. V. Clifford was at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore studying surgery and pathology.

Clarence Stefanski was running for coroner on the Republican ticket. This was a Republican town and nomination on that ticket was tantamount to election. A thumbnail sketch of Clarence told how he worked for \$40 a month as a male nurse in Cincinnati to put himself through medical school.

Council passed two important resolutions: 1. That Youngstown should have a full time Director of Health who possessed a degree of Doctor of Public Health, and 2. That the Municipal Hospital be brought up-to-date as a modern contagious hospital. It is now the Woodside Receiving Hospital.

Vernon L. Goodwin and Erhard Weltman were welcomed as new members.

THIRTY YEARS AGO — MARCH 1950

President Nelson took the membership to task because in the last election, 10% of them did not even register.

New members that month were Fred Schlecht and F. A. Resch. Emeritus Staff members of the Youngstown Hospital were honored by a dinner at the Youngstown Country Club.

The first patient entered the Youngstown Hospital on January 1, 1883. The second on January 15. In July, 1885, it was reported that no new patient had been received within the year, and the Board considered closing the hospital. There was a deficit of \$695.00 but John Stambaugh, president of the Board, gave his personal check for the amount. The first building had 12 ward beds and 6 private rooms. There was a marton, \$400.00 per annum; a nurse, \$12.00 a month; and a male nurse and general factotum at \$20.00 a month. The training school for nurses was started in 1896. There were 12 doctors on the staff, two nurses and one orderly in 1883, no emergency, no operating room and no laboratory. In 1902 the hospital was enlarged and the first intern was appointed. He received room and board. In 1904 a total of 1,292 patients were admitted and there was a deficit of \$6,591.78. The more patients, the greater the deficit.

TWENTY YEARS AGO — MARCH 1960

C. W. Stertzbach urged the doctors to study the Forand Bill. Who remembers what the Forand Bill was about? Doctors were concerned and unhappy about the Aid for Aged which had a payment formula that nobody understood.

Richard Middleton was recovering from a serious aortic operation. Ben Berg was doing a tour of duty in the Philadelphia Naval Hospital. The late W. P. Young was appointed to the Board of Trustees of Wilberforce College.

New members that month were: James Howell Fulks, David Richard Ginder, Rene Cossette, Stephen Kurt Haller and Engelburt Hecker.

(Continued on Page 60)

TEN YEARS AGO — MARCH 1970

Ecology and Drug Abuse were on everybody's mind. Editor John McInick devoted his editorial to the problem of the contaminated environment, and he laid the blame squarely on "we the people". He urged the medical profession to take the lead in influencing the lawmakers to punish the offenders. Ten years later the "offenders" solved the problem by closing the steel mills.

Father Daniel Egan, "The Junkie Priest" addressed the Woman's Auxiliary on the problem of Drug Abuse, and he stayed for a meeting that night at Rayen School. He also made two tapes for Television and was a guest on Dan Ryan's "Open Mike" radio program. He urged that the County T.B. Hospital be converted to a Halfway House for those with a drug problem. Even the Tri-County Science Fair at Fitch High School got into the act, with the first prize going to the exhibit by Kathleen Nasci of St. Edward's School on "The Effects of Drugs on the Brain". Judges were Drs. Bleacher, Jenkins, Stotler, Wegner, and Wiltsie.

The Future Physicians Club at St. Elizabeth Hospital made a trip to the Narcotics Hospital at Lexington, and the Youngstown Health Department announced a new program on "Early Drug Education" in the City Schools.

New active member that month was Dr. Bernard Schneider. New Associate Members were Drs. Paul and Marie Krupko and Dr. Michael E. Sheridan. Intern-Resident member was Dr. Joseph S. Gregori.

—Robert R. Fisher, M.D.

LETTER

St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center
Jan. 23, 1980

Dear Dr. Brucoli:

A special Task Force is in the process of making plans for future emergency services at St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center. To this end, providers and consumers of emergency services are being asked for their input.

We would like the Mahoning County Medical Society to submit ideas, recommendations, and plans for emergency services to be rendered 2-5 years from now, both at this hospital and in the community-at-large. Specific questions to be answered are: What are the future needs? What should be done to meet the needs? What resources are available or should be made available to meet the needs?

Please feel free to write or call with your response.

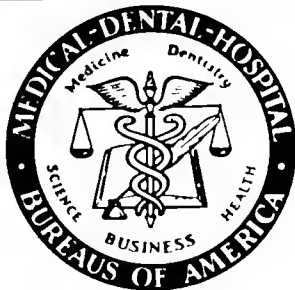
Thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely
Robert E. Wirtz, Jr.
Assistant Administrator
William R. Johnson, M.D.
Task Force Chairman

STUDENTS READY - - VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Fifty students from twenty-five high schools in Mahoning County and the Youngstown vicinity are chosen and ready for the fourteenth annual Scholarship Dinner, to be held Thursday, April 17 at Ramada Inn.

There is still room for several physicians and their wives to volunteer as hosts at the dinner and the social half-hour preceding it. Those wishing to attend the dinner should phone the Medical Society office. Only a limited number may be accommodated and these will be taken on a first-come, first-serve basis. Dr. T. N. Detesco is chairman and will be master of ceremonies for the dinner.



The Medical-Dental Bureau A service entity that caters to the additional office needs of Physicians and Dentists. Its divisions; Radio Communications, Telephone Answering, and Collections, are an important part of the emergency, public relations, and business segments of the Medical Community.

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Claims for these services are paid only when accompanied by documented evidence that they were appropriate and medically necessary under the circumstances.

If there are questions about a decision, the claim will be referred to the relevant specialty society for review.

For more information about the Medical Necessity Program, contact your area Professional Relations office or contact OMIM Provider Affairs, P.O. Box 425, Worthington, OH 43085.

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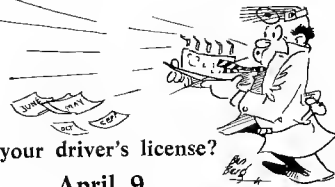


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R. R. Miller
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J. Mehta

April 11
R. J. Cuttica

April 12
A. B. Cinelli
B. S. Gordon

April 13
R. J. Heaver

April 15
J. E. Might

DELEGATES PREPARE FOR APRIL CAUCUS

The five-man OSMA delegation from Mahoning County, along with their alternates, will meet with other Sixth District delegations at the annual caucus meeting on Wednesday, April 23, at Congress Lake Country Club.

The Sixth District, OSMA, is made up of four counties — Columbiana, Mahoning, Stark and Trumbull — and has a total of 13 delegates.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and deliberate resolutions which will have been submitted to, and published by, the Ohio State Medical Association in preparation for the annual House of Delegates meeting to be held at Cincinnati, May 11-15.

Representing Mahoning County Medical Society are chief delegate, Dr. C. E. Pichette, and Drs. W. E. Sovik, J. C. Melnick, J. J. Anderson, and P. J. Mahar, Jr. Alternates are Drs. G. R. Barton, D. E. Pichette, K. F. Wieneke, A. T. Deramo and J. W. Tandatnick.

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APPOINTMENTS AT NEOUCOM

The Board of Trustees of Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine has approved the award of academic rank to additional members of the clinical faculty who will provide training for the College's medical students. Approved for faculty rank are the following:

Leonard P. Caccamo, M.D.	Professor, Internal Medicine
Stephen M. Barolsky, M.D.	Asst. Professor, Internal Medicine
A. James Giannini, M.D.	Assoc. Professor, Psychiatry
B. N. Krishnasetty, M.D.	Asst. Professor, Radiology
Stephen W. Ondash, M.D.	Clin. Assoc. Professor, Surgery
D. J. Dallis, M.D.	Asst. Professor, Surgery
Robert J. Hritzo, M.D.	Asst. Professor, Surgery

NEWS NOTES

Dr. Clarc Reese has been named Director of the Family Practice Center and Associate Director of the Family Practice Residency Program at Youngstown Hospital Association.

Dr. Jacque Politi, pediatrician on St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center staff, has been named a Diplomate of the American Board of Allergy and Immunology, a joint board of the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American Board of Pediatrics.

Dr. Ludwig Deppisch, associate pathologist in Youngstown Hospital Association's Division of Pathology and director of its pathology residency program, has been appointed course director of general pathology at Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine.

BUSINESS MEETING IN MARCH

Principal business at the March 18th meeting of the Mahoning County Medical Society will concern a special assessment to be levied on the membership if voted upon favorably.

Concerning assessments, the constitution of the Medical Society states: "The Council shall have the following powers and authority (a) to levy special assessments on the members of the Society to provide for unusual or extraordinary expenses, but any such levy shall be subject to vote of the members of the Society at a regular meeting or at a special meeting called for such purpose."

The meeting will be held at the Youngstown Club on Tuesday, March 18. Spouses are invited. Dinner reservations should be made at the Medical Society office. Dinner is approximately at 6:30 p.m., preceded by a social hour at 6:00 p.m., with the meeting beginning approximately at 7:30 p.m.

MCMS FOUNDATION REPORT

When the Mahoning County Medical Society Foundation trustees meet in June, they will be making the 27th, and perhaps the 28th and 29th, loan since the creation of the Foundation in 1966.

Elected to the six man Board this year were Drs. S. F. Gaylord and David E. Pichette. Other members are Drs. M. S. Rosenblum, chairman; R. B. McConnell, John C. Melnick and John B. Werning.

Applications for loans are available at the Medical Society office. The three criteria for loans are that the applicant must have completed one year of medical school, be a resident of Mahoning or Trumbull County and must show need.

Originally funded by the old Medical Service Foundation and by the so-called "polio" money collected by the Medical Society in the Sabine vaccine immunization program, the Foundation fund has been increased by repayment of loans, investment interest and gifts from members. The Board urges all members to consider making tax-free contributions to the Foundation.

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

February 12, 1980

The regular meeting of the council of the Mahoning County Medical Society was held on Tuesday, Feb. 12, 1980 at the Youngstown Club.

The following applications for membership were presented by the Censors:

ACTIVE: Kong T. Oh, M.B.B.S.
 ASSOCIATE: Antonia Trono Gestossin, M.D.
 John Politis, M.D.
 Kolli Mohan Prasad, M.D.

The applications were approved. The applicants will become members of the Mahoning County Medical Society 15 days after publication in the *Bulletin*, unless objection is filed in writing with the secretary before that time.

A letter from St. Elizabeth Hospital Medical Center was read announcing a special Task Force making plans for future emergency services, and asking for input from the Medical Society and all physicians. The letter will be published in the *Bulletin*.

A letter was read from the Mahoning County Children Services Board asking for nominations to their Citizens Advisory Committee. A reply will be sent with the suggestion that it might be more appropriate to have physicians on their Board.

A letter was read from David D. Tomb, a realtor citing a need for a clinic to serve the growing senior citizen population in the downtown area. He asked for an expression of interest from Medical Society members to participate in the clinic. A letter will be sent stating that Council cannot commit our members, but thanks for consulting us. We endorse anything to improve Youngstown. It was also noted that clinics at St. E. and YHA are not far from the downtown area.

Dr. Jack Schreiber, AMA delegate, reported on two matters of extreme importance on the national level. He discussed proposed changes in the AMA principles of medical ethics, which have been challenged by the Federal Trade Commission. He also discussed the AMA proposed changes in the federation concept and noted the several proposed options available. The purpose is to increase AMA membership. Dr. Brucoli stated that this will be first on the agenda for the March meeting and asked members to give consideration to a resolution.

Howard Rempes
Executive Secretary

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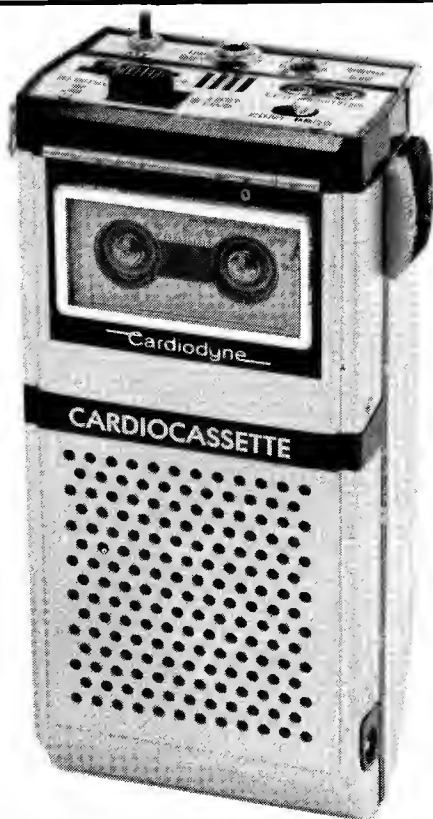
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